

STATE BOARD MEETING DATE: March 24, 2003

SUBJECT: Consideration to Accept Moneys Under Enhancing Education Through Technology

SUBMITTED BY: Chris Castillo, Education Technology Specialist

MANAGEMENT TEAM REVIEW: March 6, 2003

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Enhancing Education Through Technology (Ed Tech) Program is authorized under Title II, Part D, of the *No Child Left Behind Act PL 107-110*. The primary goal of the Ed Tech program is to improve student academic achievement through the use of technology in elementary and secondary schools. It is also designed to assist every student – regardless of race, ethnicity, income, geographical location, or disability – in becoming technologically literate by the end of eighth grade. Further, the Ed Tech Program encourages the effective integration of technology resources and systems with professional development and curriculum development to promote research-based instructional methods that can be widely replicated.

Arizona's funding level will be approximately **\$10,048,603**. The amount will not be finalized until April, when Title I data is reported to the U.S. Department of Education by the State Education Agencies. In accordance with the Ed Tech Program, up to 5% of the funds may be used by the SEA to administer the program and support program initiatives and requirements. Of the remaining funds, 50% are to be allocated to local educational agencies through Title I funding formula and 50% through a competitive grant process.

Local educational agencies (LEAs) may apply to use the funds to:

- Assist in implementing and supporting a comprehensive system that effectively uses technology to improve student academic achievement.
- Encourage the establishment or expansion of public-private partnerships that are designed to increase access to technology, particularly in schools served by “high-need local educational agencies.”
- Assist in the acquisition, development, interconnection, implementation, improvement, and maintenance of an effective educational technology infrastructure in a manner that expands access of technology to students (particularly disadvantaged students) and teachers.
- Support initiatives that enable school personnel and administrators to integrate technology effectively into curriculum and instruction that are aligned with State standards, through such means as high-quality professional development programs.

- Enhance ongoing professional development for teachers, principals, and administrators by providing constant access to training and updated research in teaching and learning through electronic means.
- Support the development and use of electronic networks and other innovative methods, such as distance learning, to provide specialized or rigorous courses or curricula to students who would not otherwise have access to such information, particularly to those in geographically isolated regions.
- Support local efforts to use technology to promote parent and family involvement in education and to enhance communication among students, parents, and school personnel.
- Support the rigorous evaluation of programs funded under the Ed Tech Act, particularly regarding the impact of these programs on student academic achievement, and ensure that the results are widely accessible through electronic means.

Reference attachment for recommended distribution of funds.

**BOARD ACTION REQUESTED: ☐ INFORMATION ☒ ACTION/DESCRIBED
BELOW**

That the state Board of Education, pursuant to ARS 15-206 and ARS 15-207, accept on behalf of the state of Arizona, the funds appropriated by Congress under the Enhancing Education Through Technology Program and approve the plan for distribution and use of the funds.

ATTACHMENTS: YES ☒ NO ☐

ENHANCING EDUCATION THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

RECOMMENDED DISTRIBUTION OF FY 2004 FUNDING:

Funds will be disbursed in accordance with federal program rules and guidelines. Unless otherwise indicated, the grant period for all sub-grants will be from July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004.

1.0 FORMULA SUBGRANTS (Approximately \$4,773,086)

The state may only award formula grant funds to LEAs that receive funds under Part A of Title I or to other LEAs that apply as part of a consortium with LEAs that receive funds under Part A of Title I. The state will use the same formula for disbursement as the Title I program.

2.0 COMPETATIVE SUBGRANTS (Approximately \$4,773,086)

2.1 Comprehensive Implementation Grants (\$1,679,260)

As stipulated in the authorizing statute, an applying local agency must address particular activities or initiatives authorized in the legislation and addressed in their local technology plans. Only eligible local entities that are high-need may apply. The definition of a “high-need local educational agency” is an LEA that:

- (1) Is among those LEAs in the State with the highest numbers or percentages of children from families with incomes below the poverty line; and
- (2) Serves one or more schools identified for improvement or corrective action under section 1116 of the ESEA, or has a substantial need for assistance in acquiring and using technology.

Grants are for one year and are not to exceed \$150,000 per LEA or \$200,000 per consortia.

Using an objective rating system that is in accordance with statutory requirements, teams of volunteers representing local education agencies, higher education, community organizations, and business and industry will review and rank all applications. Those rated highest, contingent upon the availability of funding, will be recommended to the State Board of Education for approval.

2.2 Comprehensive Implementation, Continued Year Two Funding – (\$1,500,000)

Only LEAs and consortia of such agencies that developed a strategic three to five year technology plan last year and received funding under this grant for year one are eligible

to apply for funding. Additionally, to be eligible for a continuation comprehensive grant, LEAs or consortia must:

- Have satisfactorily completed year one activities as indicated by the on-site monitoring visit provided by the Regional Training Center staff;
- Must update their technology plan to reflect changes or progress made during the year;
- Demonstrate a need to continue their efforts;
- Continue to be eligible by meeting the qualifications criteria listed in 2.1.

2.3 ADE Regional Training Centers – (Approximately \$1,593,862)

Provide second-year funding, which was approved by the State Board of Education in June of 2002, for the four Regional Training Centers.

The Ed Tech Program requires that funded LEAs, whether through formula or competitive awards, must spend 25% of their funds on professional development. The Arizona Department of Education's Regional Training Centers were established five years ago to provide professional development training and technical assistance to local education agencies in their region of the state. In accordance with provisions of the Ed Tech Program, RTC staff will monitor funded projects, to assure grantee compliance with Program statutory requirements.

3.0 STATE ADMINISTRATION (\$502,430)

The Arizona Department of Education will set aside 5 percent (**\$502,430**) of the allocation to support reasonable and necessary costs associated with administering the Enhancing Education Through Technology Program. A State may use no more than 60 percent of its retained funds for administrative costs. The remaining funds will be used for technical assistance.